THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1899.

Subscription by Mail, Postpaid. DAILY, per Month..... DAILY, per Year..... SUNDAY, per Year. DAILY AND SUNDAY, per Year 8 00 DAILY AND SUNDAY, per Month. Postage to foreign countries added. Tax Sun, New York city.

Pants-Riceque No. 12, near Grand Hotel, and Kinsque No. 10. Boulevarde des Capucines.

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Thanksgiving.

Every man knows to-day his own reasons for thankfulness or for lamentation over his lot, but that the vast majority of the people of this country, taken together, are low in a happier and more prosperous condition than ever before in their history and than any other people in the world, is easily proved.

This Republic is at peace, except so far as it is stamping out the embers of the practically extinguished fire of insurrection in the Philippines. The task has been pushed through during the last month, with the aid of necessary reënforcements, and with a loss to our troops which is comparatively insignificant. All England is in mourning because of the terrible slaughter in South Africa and the direful prospect is that the killing and wounding have only begun. With us, the end of sanguinary warfare in the Philippines is close at hand if not already reached.

The business prosperity which began to set in as soon as the American people had vin licated so splendidly the financial honor and integrity of the Nation in 1896 has since steadily gathered force and is now extending to every form of industry and enterprise. Wages are high and the home and foreign demand for our products is great beyond precedent. The promise of a long continuance of this prosperity is brighter than at any past period.

We are approaching the year of a Presidential election, yet there is none of the plarm as to the coincident and consequent disturbance to trade and financial conditions which the near arrival of such a contest has usually excited. Practically the main issue to be met is already settled and the interests of the people dictate the decision so plainly that no doubt of the result impairs the confidence with which the future is regarded by the markets and the exchanges. The prospect, therefore, is of a Presidential campaign in 1900 which will interfere with the progress and prosperity of the business of the Republic to a far less degree than any past contest of the kind, though more than fifteen million electors will cast their ballots in November, 1900.

The condition of the people as to health and security is better than ever before, Because of advances in medicine and surgery and sanitary protection and precaution the average of life is increasing. Science is stendily extending to all society blessings and privileges once obtainable only by the few, or not even possible to them. The rich are not growing richer and the poor poorer, as demagogues and social charlatans assert, but throughout our society there is a levelling upward. Luxuries once confined to princes are now within the easy reach of everybody. Rags and tatters have disappeared from our streets. Drunkenness is decreasing.

If, therefore, a man dismisses from consideration ills which may be peculiar to himself and looks abroad over so lety, he will find abundant opportunity for rejoicany previous time since first man began to contend with the forces of nature and the obstacles to his highest possible development.

The Political Situation in France,

The Cabinet, headed by M. WALDECK-ROUSSEAU, although repeatedly attacked, continues to retain the confidence of the Chamber of Deputies. This unexpected phenomenon is, no doubt, due, in part, to the difficulty of uniting the elements of opposition, but largely, also, to the belief current among sensible Parisians that the success of the coming Exhibition may be seriously impaired by a new Ministerial erisis.

It will be remembered that, last spring, after Premier Durry's resignation, upward of a week clapsed during which France practically possessed no executive, because President LOUBET was unable to and any influential Republican who would undertake the task of forming a Cabinet. For a time it looked as if he would have to fall back on the expedient of naming a Ministry ad interim, which, if it could and the gold dollar of twenty-five and eightsecure the assent of the Senate, would dissolve the present Parliament and order a new general election. President LOUBET naturally shrank from encountering the risks incident to an appeal to the people at that time, when, owing to the prevalence and violence of the anti-revisionist sentiment, the avowed or secret enemies of the Republic might have triumphed at the hallot box. There was even more danger of such an outcome than there had been when the Boulangist fever was at its height, and when, it will be remembered, the present political system was supposed to have been saved only through the ruthless exercise by M. Constans of the great powers vested

in the Minister of the Interior. So long as the present Cabinet exists, there is no reason to apprehend a collision between the friends and focs of the Republic at the ballot box before the expiration of the Chamber's statutory term; neither are there any indications of a revolutionary movement on the part of the army or of the Paris mob. For the moment, DREYFUS seems to have been forgotten by the mass of Frenchmen; DÉROULÉDE has lost most of the influence he once possessed; GUÉRIN. the ex-tripe-seiler, is a laughing stock. Scarcely a voice has been raised in protest against the disciplinary treatment to which generals of the highest rank have been subjected by the Marquis de GALLIFFET, the seem to make it the duty of the Secretary Minister of War, who has resumed the of the Treasury to keep the fund up to the

renounced by one of his predecessors. Then, again, it might have been presumed that the present Cabinet, made up, as it is, of most heterogeneous factors, would fall

between two stools if it attempted on the one hand to fulfill its obligations to the Catholic Church, and, on the other, to forbid the Jesuits to exercise educational functions. As a matter of fact, it has se cured from the Chamber, though not by a very large majority, a provisional approval of its campaign against the Jesuits; while on Monday, M. DELCASSE, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, although apparently deserted by his Socialist supporters, secured an appropriation for the Embassy at the Vatican, which is clearly indispensable, so long as France adheres to the Concordat.

While the Government has thus managed to sustain itself in the Chamber, the Senate, in its capacity of a High Court of Justice, is going on with the trial of the alleged conspirators against the Republic. Comparatively little attention is paid to the proceedings, and no public temonstration need be feared if most of the accused persons should be convicted and sentenced to imprisonment. Thus far. in truth, everything seems to give an assurance of the tranquillity which is recognized by shrewd Parisians as an essential condition of the Exhibition's success. There would be, for the moment, no cloud on the horizon if decent Frenchmen could contrive to stop the abuse of the English, and even of Queen Victoria, in which some of the minor boulevard journals indulge.

The Lamentable Backslidings of Joe

Sibley. The Hon, JOSEPH C. STRLEY, who was elected to Congress from the Twentyseventh Pennsylvania district last year, defeating the sitting member, the Hon. CHARLES W. STONE, is one of the richest, briskest and most popular of the Keystone Bryanites. The Democrats of district after district have pleaded with him to become their candidate for Congress. His political colors have been flercely argent. There may have been older silver soldiers, but there have been no better. He has been close to the bosom of Col. BRYAN, who has been his treasured guest. BRYAN and JOE SIBLEY is a ticket of which some tender Democratic souls have dreamed.

Such was Joz SIBLEY, but what is he now? Alas! We have to record that Jon SIBLEY is now worshipping the golden calves of Bethel. In an interview published in the Philadelphia North American Mr. SIBLEY declares that "free silver is no longer an issue." "The great prosperity which the country is now enjoying," he continues, "ought to be evidence enough to convince anybody that the financial policy of the present Administration is all right on that question."

We can see the sorrowing wonder on Col. BRYAN's face as he puts antiseptic on his fifth rib after this stab from a silver dagger and a friendly hand. "How can a Democrat enjoy prosperity"? the Colonel is asking himself. "If free silver is dead, what is alive in my outfit? And, O, to think that JOE SIELEY should have turned traiter to the cause of humanity and the money of the producing classes! I am distressed for thee, my brother JONATHAN"!

To make the distress more acute, the Hon. Joe SIBLEY jumps with all his weight on Col. BRYAN's great anti-expansion issue: "if President McKryley should adopt any other policy in the future than he has been pursuing since the beginning of the war with Spain, he would go down into history the most generally condemned President this country ever had.

There will be tears and breaking hearts for this.

The Caucus Currency Bill.

The Currency bill prepared by a caucus ommittee of the new House of Representatives for submission to the House at its forthcoming session and published yesterday will have to undergo a great deal of alteration and amendment to make it harmonize with existing law, as well as effect the purpose of its authors. That alteration ing and hope for the American people as a and amendment it will doubtless receive in whole. It is preparing to enter upon the course of its progress through Congress. the second century of its national exist- It has first to be approved by a new cauence happier, more united, more prosper- eus committee, and then accepted by the ous, more powerful in the world than ever | House Committee on Currency and Banking before in its history. Thus it can and by it reported to the House. It will next look ahead into the twentieth century with | be considered in Committee of the Whole a far greater assurance of progress and House, then passed—if it passes at all-by improvement in all the arts and blessings the House, and then transmitted to the of civilization than mankind has had at Senate. In the Senate, again, it will have to be considered by the Committee or Finance and reported for action by the full body. A disagreement between the Senate and the House is probable and a Conference Committee will need to be appointed to devise terms of adjustment between the two. It is therefore unlikely that the bill

will become a law in its present shape. The first section of the proposed bill is evidently drawn for the purpose of quieting the doubts which have been raised by ill-informed newspapers and politicians in regard to the gold standard. It declares that the standard unit of value "shall" consist of twenty-five and eighttenths grains of gold nine-tenths fine, as if it did not now consist of just that quantity of gold, and the committee in their report accompanying the bill recommend that the nation "shall" adopt the gold standard, as if it had not yet done so. This is historically false and politically a blunder. The act of Congress of Feb. 12, 1873, known as the Mint act, expressly made 900 parts of pure gold and 100 parts alloy the standard for gold coins, tenths grains' weight the unit of value. To say, in effect, that this act is not now in

force is pure folly. The second section of the bill provides that all interest-bearing obligations of the | and assassination. United States for the payment of money "now existing "shall be payable in gold. This is a change in the agreement by holders of existing obligations payable in "coin" to accept silver dollars in payment, which will not be binding on the nation, if, hereafter it chooses to dispute it. The section further declares that "all" obligations, public and private, shall be performed in conformity with the gold standard and then immediately declares that nothing herein contained shall affect the present legal-tender quality of the silver dollar.' Here is a contradiction which

needs to be removed. In the third section and in several other places the bill speaks of "United States notes and Treasury notes issued under the act of July 14, 1890." Treasury notes are United States notes if they are anything, and the \$346,000,000 of old legal tender notes were not issued under the act of July 14, 1890, but under acts passed long before that date. The language of the bill

in this respect needs to be made clearer. The provisions of the fourth section for the maintenance of the gold reserve fund absolute control over the army which be- limit of 25 per cent. of the volume longs to his office, but which had been of notes now outstanding, without regard to the amount retired. The whole of the notes might be paid in and redeemed, and, yet, apparently, bonds would have to be sold to make up the original 25 per

cent. The selling of bonds is, indeed, left to the discretion of the Secretary of the Treasury, but his duty in regard to it

should be more explicitly defined. Power is also given to the Secretary his discretion to exchange gold coin for "any other money issued by the United States." This seems to embrace the silver dollars, but a silverite Secretary might think otherwise, and in the exercise of his discretion refuse to give gold for them. This possible silverite Secretary has been the great bugbear of the currency reformers, and if his power for mischief is to be destroyed no discretion should be given

him in regard to the matter. The provisions of the bill relating to the issue of bank notes virtually amount to paying the national banks a bonus of 2 per cent, and more per annum for issuing currency which they can lend out for all the interest they can get. The nation is to guarantee the notes, redeem them on demand, assume their payment when the banks issuing them fall and, besides, is to pay interest on the bonds deposited as security for the notes. Why the nation should not issue the notes directly, itself, and cancel an equal amount of bonds, we should be glad to hear explained. Many other matters in the bill call for

unfavorable comment, but we let them pass for the present. f South Africa. They are all men. Russia's Open Door.

The railroad between Tallen-wan bay and Port Arthur, the Chinese harbors acquired by Russia on the straits of Pechili, was opened last week. It is the southern terminus of the line now building from the Trans-Siberian railroad through Manchuria to the gulf of Pechill. Port Arthur is Russia's new naval station and Tallen-wan is to be exclusively a commercial port free to all the world. Plans for the breakwaters and other harbor improvements at this new business centre and for the city of Dalny, which the Czar has ordered to be built, are all prepared and the expenditure thus far authorized is \$8.750,000.

The agreement between China and Russia provided that the port of Talien-wan should be maintained for the benefit of all who reside in or trade with the Far East, and in his order of August last the Czar declared that it was to be absolutely a free port. In that proclamation the Czar said: "We have great surprise of his clergy, he has rapprochement between the peoples of the West and East."

The fact that her great European ports are on landlocked waters whose outlets to the ocean are in foreign hands has affected Russia's trade policy profoundly. So eager is Russia to produce herself all that her people consume that she maintains a heavy import tax upon many articles of which the home supply is stil very inadequate. It is only recently that the Government has decided to admit free for a limited period some classes of agri cultural machinery that are sorely needed and are not yet produced in the country.

A diametrically opposite policy is pursue in eastern Siberia, whose vast mineral and agricultural resources require machinery and other aids which European Russia can not yet supply. Vladivostock is one of the freest ports in the world. Only a few articles like petroleum and alcoholic prod ucts are required to pay duty. But Russia does not expect always to maintain open doors on its Pacific coast. The year 1909 has been fixed as the limit of the free trade policy on the Asian coast of the empire, the idea being that the devel opment of Russian and Siberian manufac tures and the completion of the Trans Siberian railroad will by that time enable the home manufacturers and farmers to produce everything that is needed for the further development of the vast domain of

Meanwhile Russia is securing a firm hold ution the Chinese market and commercial rivalry cannot deprive her of her geographical advantage in developing this field But the policy of the open door, which the Czar himself has announced for the port of entire region and competition will not be stifled by the fact that Russia is China's next-door neighbor.

An Issue Dished.

The grand Tagalog republic of WASH INGTONS and HAMPDENS, a government recognized by the Anti-Imperialist League is smashed even as a figment of the imagination, which is about all it ever amounted to. The "Congress" has skedaddled. The apital is in AGUINALDO'S shoes and liable to be arrested at any moment. The rebels in the north are on the run. The rebels in the south are going home, convinced that the jig is up. Only the rump of rebellion is left in Luzon. The Mindanao rebela are giving up their guns. The little row is about over.

The plight and ruin of AguiNALDo are the political plight and ruln of his supporters in the United States. They have not a leg left to stand on. Their hopes and their predictions have been baffled. The American authority over American territory has been asserted. The bubble of an independent Filipino republie has been burst. Territorially, the process of expansion is practi cally complete. The political aspects have yet to be considered, but against the fact itself it is fruitless to strive. Orrs and his generals have knocked anti-expansion into a cocke I hat.

All that is left to the Malay represents tives of our ATKINSONS is bushwhacking

So goes another Democratic issue, smashed not merely before the meeting of the Democratic National Convention, but before the meeting of Congress.

On Boston Common at 11:15 A. M., today, the Hon. ALADDIN ATKINSON will under-take to eat one grilled jawbone and one porringer of soup anti-imperial cooked by his own hands, as a testimony against the oppressors; and the Hon. GAMALIEL BRADFORD will tear his name into pleces and distribute them to the spectators.

Two committees of Pennsylvania Republicans have been appointed to foster the project of holding the next national convention in Philadelphia, at which city in 1856 the first national convention of the Republican party was held and at which was held in 1872 the ast convention at which a Republican President was renominated who was reclected to that office. It has been brought to the notice of the members of the Republican National Committee which meets in Washington two weeks hence to fix the time and place for the 1000 convention, that Philadelphia has in the buildings of the Export Exhibition a place suitable for the convention. If necessary, ar auditorium accommodating 20,000 people could be constructed under the roof of the Exhibition main building. It is pointed out that New York, Baltimore, Boston and Pitts burg have not asked for the convention; that Cincinnati and Cleveland are politically unavallable, and that Philadelphia will be the only large Eastern city in the field. St. Louis was the place of the Republican Convention of 1896, and the experiment of 1892 in holding the convention at a city not easily accessible and not of the first class in population is not likely to be repeated. Under the circumstances, as the Philadelphians believe, the choice of the convention city will narrow down to Chicago and Philadelphia with greater ad

vantages on the side of Philadelphia. The county of New York, the most im portant political, mercantile, industrial and commercial constituency of the New World, will be represented in the Fifty-sixth Congress, which convenes on Monday, by a delegation to the House of Representatives that will puzzle the country's wise men. All ten are Democrats—there is not a solitary Republican representative from the county which rolled up 20,000 majority for William McKin-LEY in 1896 on a platform every plank of which has been vindicated and every piedge fulfilled and every opposing menace to prosperity and public confidence repelled or re-

The Miller formula for making money Ask for it.

Every day in the Philippines engraves seeper on our military records the names of LAWTON, WHEATON, MACARITHUR and YOUNG and their Commander-in-Chief, Orrs. Every day in the Philippines puts another mark of eredit to the patience, persistence and manilsess of the American soldier. While we are praising our own we cannot refrain from saying a word of neknowledgment for the valor shown by Briton and Boer on the battlefields

The Bryanites continue to look fondis upon Kansas and believe it theirs. The Fu sionists carried six counties, straight, in recent election; the Republicans carried

'The Coming Conflict in the Episcopa

Church.' TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Your editorial of Nov. 28 gives the impression tha we are on the eve of a rupture in the Episcopa Church, and consequently I trust you wil allow me to correct this impression, as I am rather intimately associated with what is known as the anti-rationalistic movement is the Church.

With reference to holy matrimony we as egitimately divided into two parties, namely those who consider it a life-long binding contract, and those who consider that Jesus Christ sanctioned remarriage of the innocenparty to a divorce. Bishop Potter strenuously opposed what has been called the High Church view of this question, but at the last Diocesan Convention, to the succeeded in attaining our historic aim, a to the conclusion that the only solution of the difficulty is to be found in the Episco pai Church not allowing its order for the solemnization of matrimony" to be used for a divorced party under any circumstances This will compel what you call "the society of fashion" to avail themselves either of the wil law or of those ministers of Protestant denominations who allow divorce under certain circumstances.

At the same time it is probable that at the next General Convention of 1901 the question of excommunication of divorced persons wil be left an open one, and consequently every priest will be at liberty to exercise his right o binding and loosing" according to his own judgment. This is the truly Protestant position as distinguished from that of Rome, and one which is not always intelligible to the lay mind. Only priest and Pope enjoy the privi lege of binding and loosing, and as we have no Pope it must rest with the priest in our Church not possess any power of "binding and loos ing "on moral questions which is not possessed by the priest, por would a General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church dare to legislate on a standard of morality. For example, we could not pass a canon to define what we understand by either murder or stealing, nor can we have a canon defining what we understand by adultery. But the Church has a perfect right to pass a canon with regard to the use of its services. This is evident in the rubric of the order for the "Burial of the Dead," which enjoins that it shall not be used for any unbantized adults any who die excommunicate, or who have sid violent hands upon themselves."

Then, as to what is called the "Briggs contro versy." An effort is being made by Bishop Seymour of Springfield, Iil., supported by a very large number of the Bishops and clergy, to prevent the ordination of men holding views such as those which are held by the Rev. Mr. Schermerhorn, who, by the way, belongs to the Diocese of Massachusetts and not to that of New York. Those who have read "Renascent Christianity" will have no doubt that Mr. Schermerhorn is a Unitarian, yet he has declared that he holds precisely the same views low which he held in the year 1883, when he was ordained deacon by Rishon Potter Rut there is no "open conflict" regarding this question. There are at least 150 clergy out of 388 in the Dicess of New York who hold very decided views on this subject, and Bishop Potter at the last convention, when he read out the names of the candidates for holy orders, intimated that the responsibility of their ordination rested with the clergy, and we may be quite sure that both the Standing Committee of the Diocese and th clergy at large will in future do all they can to assist Bishop Potter to decide who are "fit per sons for the ministry." But there is no confliet. There is no feeling of disloyalty to Bishop Potter. Nor is there any likelihood of a runt Dr. De Costa's action in leaving the Church simply implies nothing, as every clergy

The reason why this controversy centres i New York is simply this, that it is in the Diocess of New York that the largest number of men are presented for ordination. Moreover the diocese is ruled by a man of eminence wh is never afraid either to speak his mind or even to change it; one who has the courage of his impulses as well as of his convictions. But I can assure you that there is no "coming conflict." The 4.744 clergy in the United States are a more united body than that of anyother Christian community, the Presbyterians, for example, and a few exceptions do not make the rule. One of the Anti-Brigais Party. New York, Nov. 29.

Bitter Democratte Contests.

From the Galveston Daily News. It is claimed by some that the Democracy of Kentucky is hopelessly divided and that a very had condition is about to be made even wors by a bitter contest between Goebel and Blackburn for the Senatorship. There is already a spirited affair on in Texas, and no observant person is going to be astonished if it should result in a serious division in Democratic ranks. Other States are stirred by similar contests, and in some instances a lasting distintegration of party lorces seems inevitable. This is certainly true of Alabama, The race between Senator Morgan and Goy, Johnston opens with sensational accusations, flat contradictions and a continuous line of dramatic episodes. Whoever the successful candidate may be, it is quite sure that a serious and lasting cleavage is imminent in Alabama. It is at least probable that the effects of certain of the Senatorial contests in the Southern States may be felt even in national politics for many years to come. burn for the Senatorship. There is already

She Admires Our Cops.

From a letter in the N.w Orleans Times Den The magnificent police corps of New York strikes me with admiration. Every time I go downtown especially at the junction of Fifth avenue and Twenty-third street—such fine Irish giants: It makes one utter a prayer to St. Patrick that the Emerald Isle could produce anything so fine to guard public safety. KATE LOUISE LENNOD

Harper's Magazine for December is a Christmas number, and appears in a white and gold cover, with contents fitting for the season. Some contributors and contributions are: Sir Edwi Arnold, with a peem, "The Birth of Wine in Ancient Persis," a charming essay on "Children" by F. S. Martin, charmingly tilnstrated by Sarah S. Stilwell Susan I., Emery's "Fra Angelico's Madonna of the Star," illustrated by F. V. Du Mond: Stephen Crane. Mark Twain, John Vance Chency, Virginia Boyle Howard Pyle, Sir Martin Conway and Julian Ralph, Thomas A. Janvier and Miss Lella Herbert, who ends her series of articles descriptive of Washington's "Homes and Households. Mr. Howelle's bilver Wedding Journey " ands siso.

SEVERE FIGHTING IN SOUTH AFRICA.

The action fought by the Kimberley relief column under Gen. Methuen on Tuesday was preliminary to the passage of the Modder River, which he reports as in full flood. The Boers were found entrenched on the north bank, having two heavy guns and four Krupp field pieces in position, their being said to number 8,000, which would be included the commandos that were driven from Belmont and Enslin. The action began on the part of the British by a continuous cannonade from the field batteries and rifle fire from the infantry lining the south bank of the Modder River. Under cover of this fire that insted throughout the day the British succeeded in getting a small force across the stream through the exertions of the Engineers probably using pontoons or the collapsible boats now in use in the British

The Boers were eventually driven from their position, and the British are no doubt by this time established on the north bank of the Modder and pushing on to Kimberley. From the river they have still some twenty-two miles to murch before they come in touch with the Kimberley garrison, and the Boers are said to have a strong position at Spytfontein, eleven miles beyond the Modder. No estimates of the British losses in what

Gen. Methuen describes in his official account of the fight as one of the pardest and most trying in the annals of the British army are given; of the Boer loss, nothing would of course be known until after the crossing of the river.

The details of the British losses at Belmont and Easlin are still incomplete, but the figures already given show that they were serious. especially in officers. The Boer reports of their losses are obviously unreliable, the having scattered, after their fashion, after each fight and some of them having given themselves up, leaving their dead unburied and some wounded behind; at the same time, they do not appear to have anything like equalled

those of the British. The latest detailed list of the British Army in South Africa shows that it is composed of 13 cavalry regiments or portions of regiments, 4 batteries of horse artillery, 22 field batteries, 2 mountain batteries, 2 companies of garrison artillery, 54 battellons of infantry, 30 companies army service corps. 18 companies army medical corps and 5 companies army ordnance corps. In addition, there are 3 companies of fortress, 4 companies of field, 2 companies railway, and I division telegraph engineers. Also one section balloon engineers; one bridging battalion, and one engineer field troop. Out of these has to be deducted one pattery of mountain artiflery, two battalions of in!antry, and part of a regiment of cavalry prisoners at Pretoria.

A fifth division for South Africa is now being made up in England, and will number 11,013 officers and men, with 1,263 horses, 18 fleid and 9 machine guns.

The Presbyterian Church and Mr. Moody To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: "The real facts of the case are," writes "An Elder" to THE SUN, "that Mr. Moody had nothing to do with the calling of the Rev. J. Wilber Chapman to the pulpit of the Fourth Presby terian Church. On the contrary, he was opposed to his leaving a very large church in Philadelphia and taking this small and unknown church." Now, if these two statements are not contradictory, I do not know the Eng-

I am as well aware as "An Elder" that Dr Chapman is a Presbyterian, but I have yet to learn that Mr. Moody or Dr. Morgan is, and it was with reference to them I made my inquiry. As a Presbyterian for more years than "Ar Elder" has been on this earth, I want to know by what right Mr. Moody should oppose the movements of Dr. Chapman or any other Presbyterian minister, or interfere in our church affairs?

"A small and unknown church!" This is said of a church founded in 1779, sixty or sevents years before John Wanamaker was born or Bethany Church thought of, and for over one hundred years one of the leading Presbyterian churches of this city, with a Benevolent Society dating from 1795, a Ladies City Mission Sc clety dating from 1824. a Bible Society dating from 1834. Ac. Shades of Dr Thompson and his revered predecessors, and of the Stew. arts, the Altkens, the Harrisons, the McLentocks and hundreds of others, leading citizens of this town in their day, rise and listen to what "An Elder" of your old church says con

cerning it! Will "An Elder" deny that he consulted Mr. Moody regarding the pastorate of this church? Will he deny that after such consultation he went post haste to a town up the State on a Sunday and conferred with Dr. Chapman re-garding the vacancy? Will be deny that almost, if not entirely, on his recommendation the Committee on Supply went in a body to Washington the following Sunday, where they heard Dr. Chapman conduct two evangelistic meetings? Will be deny that he, the "Eider" is the recognized agent and trusted lieutenan of Mr. Moody in this town? Will he deny that Dr. Radeliff of Washington, one of Dr. Chap man's dearest friends and advisers, counselled this committee and this congregation that Dr. Chapman was the best man they could possibly get, provided that he gave up his evangelistic work, but if he did not, then he was not the man they wanted for their pastor? Will he deny that it was Dr. Chapman's carnest desire to settle down to pastoral work and that that was made a condition precedent to his call These are all facts well known in the Presby terian body, and I ask "An Elder's" denial o

Not being a member of Dr. Chanman church, let it be understood that my letter had no possible animus against him. I congratu ate him on his success so far, and sincerely wish him godspeed in his new field. He is ur loubtedly an earnest and brilliant preacher with a charming personality, and, if he develops into a good "pastor," he will combine in him self two qualities rarely met with in ministers

nowadays. As one of the old school of Presbyterians ler me warn him, however, against allowing his friend "An Elder" to gauge his value by dollars and cents, which is the curse of the Church to day. Don't let his sixty-two new members be paralleled with "the tearing out of the galler; f his church" and the \$8,000 of increased per rents, or the 125 new Sunday school scholars by the \$75 per week increase of children's con tributions. This brings his church down to the level of "An Elder's" Carnegie Hall revival meetings, and it is this tendency that is wreck ing our churches and forcing men like me to the conviction that, as a rule, evangelists do not make good pastors in their restless propensity for "swinging round the circle." Congratulations to Dr. Chapman if he proves himsel an exception. Will Dr. Morgan, if called, be another? My information regarding Mr Moody and his call was given me by a Presbyterian minister and a member of the Presby ery. I did not say Mr. Moody had written 1,000 letters. I said they had been issued by or emanated from him. Possibly "An Elder can give us the exact number and exactly A MEMBER. NEW YORK, Nov. 27.

A Woman on Marriage.

From the Memphis Commercial Appeal. "Not one woman in a thousand marries the man the wants," says Mrs. White, president of the Califor nia Club, a large women's organization. "Women," she continues, "do not choose their husbands because t is not permitted them to do so. They must tak what they can get. Woman dare not show a prefer ence unless she desires to shock society by an exhi bition of indelicacy and repel the man she seeks who looks upon pursuit as his divine right.

Secety is simply a marriage market," according

to this eminent authority. "Our young women are trained and educated and groomed with the one end in view of making a good showing in this marriage market-of increasing their value. All the accesso-ries of fashionable society, the environment, the annusments and the dress are arranged and de-signed for the purpose of amentuating and calling attent in to femining charms. Our man pairming the market, inspect and select. Woman simply ac-cepts and subscribes to the conditions, and she does so because she wishes to." Mrs. White confides to us the information that woman "is not the ideal, ethereal, angelic creature poelic fancy paints her. She is material and calculating."

The Augustin Daly Sale-Exhibitions of the Academy and the Water Color Society. The sale in the coming season of the books furniture, antiques and objects of art brought together by the late Augustin Daly, interests all collectors of rare editions, manuscripts, relies and articles connected with the history of the home and foreign stage, and it is now announced by the American Art Association that the sale will not take place in January as was the intention but that, owing to the time required for the proper cataloguing of the ten thousand lots, it is postponed to a later date which will be given out in due time. It is expected that the catalogue will consist of two clumes of over four hundred pages each and the sale will occupy at least two weeks with sessions both morning and atternoon.

Some idea of the value of a single department

of the collection may be formed from a list of

books which, including the Douni Bible, expanded by extra-illustration and interleaving from one volume to forty-five. \$25,000, contains the following notable pieces: Shakespeare Folios, Civil War Leaders, Old New York, Grant, Halliwell Shakespeare, London, Nell Gwynn, Ireland's History of the New York Stage, the Groller Books, Peg Woffington, Thackeray, Dickens, Dickens Drawings, Scott, and Spenser. The value of these, each being like the Douat Bible, a special volume or set of volumes expanded by rare additions in the form of pictures and memorabilia, is placed at over \$80,000. The relies include Garrick's writing table, inlaid with a portrait of Garrick in the centre of and his town and country houses on either and his town and country bouses on either side; the scales and knife used by Kean in "The Merchant of Venice." and the sword used by the same actor in "Richard III.;" a portrait of Peg Woffington by Hogarth, and furniture or personal property of other famous characters. There are manuscripts of Scott, Thackeray and Dickens, and some editions of their works with notes in the authors' handwriting. The armor comprises fine specimens of antique workmanship, and there are over thirty sees of antique furniture. Many of these were used in stage productions, and the theatrical property includes a vast collection of costumes of every period, flustrated in plays. Racinet's "Costume Historique," expanded by Mr. Daly to twelve volumes by the interleaving of hundreds of rare costume prints representing every period, from the earliest times to the present, in chronological sequence, is a treasure, the value of which will be appreciated as highly by some of our artists as by producers of plays. One of the notable manuscript of "Sheridan's Rivals." There are two volumes of autograph is the censored manuscript of "Sheridan's Rivals." There are two volumes and autograph is the constraint of "Paradise Lost," and letters by Dickens and Thackeray among the literary treasures. Material collected by Mr. Daly and bound up under such leadings as "Stage Biograph." "Stage, Hisside; the scales and knife used by Kean in Lost, and letters by Dickens and Theekeray among the literary treasures. Material collected by Mr. Daly and bound up under such headings as "Stage Riograph." "Stage History. "Stage Icionary." "Stage Dournalism." "Authors and Critics." "Pro and Con." and "Bills of the Play from 1700 to 1860" fills about a thousand volumes, and forms one of the unique features of this vast and interesting collection.

The Seventy-fifth Annual Exhibition of the National Academy of Design will be held this year much earlier than usual and in a new place. It will open to the public on Monday Jan. 1 at the galleries of the American Fine Arts Society, 215 West Fifty-seventh street. and close on Jan. 27. While the temporary new structure on Amsterdam avenue and 100th street provides the institution with the finest school studies in the city and large and commodious rooms for meetings of the members and councils it does not contain exhibition galleries, so that it is quite possible that the annual exhibitions will be held at some place below Fifte-ninth street until the new building designed by Carrére & Hastings is in part or entirely errected. Pictures and scalpture for the exhibition this year will be received at the Fine Arts Building Dec. 15 and 16 and will be submitted to a jury composed of J. G. Brown, George B. Butter, Charles Calbridge, William M. Chase, F. S. Church, Samuel Coiman and F. E. Church and Walter Clark, associates, F. S. Church and Arthur Parton, academicians, and Carleton Wiggins, associate, will serve as the Hanging Committee. The Clarke, Hallgarten and Dodge prizes will be awarded as usual by the Jury of Selection. bers and councils it does not contain ex-

The American Water Color Society is another organization compelled by the abandonment of the old Academy building on Twenty-third street to seek new quarters for its exhibition The thirty-third annual display of this society will be held in the ball room of the Astoric Hotel from Feb. 5 to 17 inclusive. Exhibits will be received, not at the hotel, but at the storage rooms of W. S. Budat the storage rooms of W. S. Bud-worth A. Sens. 424 West Fifty-second street, on Jan 12 and 13. The Hanging Committee and Jury of Selection is composed of the following artists: F. K. M. Rehn, A. N. A.; F. C. Jones, N. A.; E. L. Hyerv, N. A.; Horstio Walker, George W. Maynard, N. A.; J. Francis Murphy, N. A.; W. J. Whittemore, F. de Thulstrup, Henry F. Smith, J. Wells Champiney, A. N. A.; A. T. Bricher, Stepper, C. C. Curran, A. N. A.; A. T. Bricher, Sterner, C. C. Curran, A. N. A.; A. T. Bricher, A. N. A.; and Thomas Moran, N. A. The William T. Evans prize of \$300 "for the most meritorious water-color picture in the exhibition painted in this country by an American artist, without limit as to age," and previous recipients of the prize being izeligible, will be awarded by the jury and announced at the press view of the exhibition.

Thanksgiving. I am Thanksgiving Day, And I'm thankful for it, Because I might have been Wash day or moving day. Or something like that. I am the day Solemnly set apart For everybody to give thanks Or what he hasn't; And people may be Just as thankful For the one as for the other. For instance, everybody Ought to be thankful That he has the bulge And hasn't got to be roasted To a turn. Oysters and cranberries There are people Who go growling around Wondering what the dickens Thanksgiving is good for, any how, And they don't give a thank Any more than they give A turker to some poor curs Who doesn't taste turkey Oftener than A Thanksgiving dinner Tastes lad ! Aren't you thankful that The sun is shining somewhere Although the sky be gray Above the narrow conflues In which you always stay Aren't you thank al that The flowers are blooming somewhere Though in your garden grows But withered scentless blossoms Where one time grow the rose Aren't you thankful that The birds are singing somewhere Their songs if at fill the woods And fields with happy mosts That cheers the solitudes?

On this November day, Although you may be weeping Some tears are wiped away Aren't you thankful That on this same Thanksgiving Which you consider trash. Some folks are full of turkey While you are full of hash? Sav. you blamed Old curmudgeons. Aren't you thankful That other people have? If you ain't All the other people Are thankful they are not like you. And you've done that much good, ATIVWAY. But, as I said before I am Thanksgiving Day. And the good Lord Is still with us. And -o is the American Eagle, And the Stare a d Stripes

W. J. LAMPTON.

Aren't you thankful that

And h F u ther July

And th reis resson.

hurray for us all.

and banks awittily.

In the wide world somewhere

POSTAL RATES TO CUBA.

The Cuban Commission Ask to Be Admit-

ted Into American Postal Family. WASHINGTON, Nov. 20,-The Cuban Industrial Commission, Senor Montalvo and Senor Figueras, accompanied by William O. McDowell, President of the Cuban-American League, to-day had a conference with Postmaster-General Smith in the interest of interestate postal rates with Cuba. They pointed out that Cuba was about the only spot remaining in North America to and from which foreign rates of postage were in force, and they asked to be admitted to the postal family the North American continent at the earliest possible moment, if not as a Thanksgiving

possible moment, if not as a Thanksgiving offering, at least by Christmas time. The commissioners were perfectly satisfied with the assurances given by Postmaster-General Smith.

Señors Montsive and Figuerae express themselves as well pleased with their experience to Washington. President McKinley Segratary Gage and Secretary Hoot, Senators Forniar and Morgan, in fact every official with whose they have some in contact, has shown on and Morgan, in fact every official with with the have come in contact, has shown determined readiness to help their plot one prominent official expressed it; want you of the family, but whether dependent in or independent out of Union, we are going to help you all can." On Thursday morning Gen, Leon Wool is to have a conference with the emission.

mission.

In answer to a question as to disquicting rumors from Cubs they said: "Let money invested in giving employment to the idle and the hungry, and you can cut down the military expenses. What Cuba wants is credit to employ the idle and ruise crops. Education and immigration will follow."

Porto Rico's Experience in Government

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Ever since the year of our Lord 1868 Porto Rico had seen sending to the Spanish Cortes at Madrid fifteen Deputies and three Senators, elected by the people of the island at elections periodically held for that purpose. During the brief period of the short-lived Spanish republic. those Deputies, or Representatives as they are called here, were elected by universal suffrage every male Porto Rican, over 25 years of age, polling his votel, and several enlightened Porto Ricans were sent to Madrid, where they shope with their own light at the Cortes have ing been instrumental in the debutes and the naction of the celebrated law for emancipation of slavery and the political organization of the colony. When the reaction in Spain set in, the right of voting was restricted to those only who paid a certain amount of taxes, but elections were subsequently held in the island with the same purpose.

Ever since that period there was in the island

an elective body called the "Diputation Proan elective body called the "Diputacion Provincial," which convened at San Juan-representatives from all of the several departments or electoral districts, whose functions were to pass acimunistrative laws on all that pertained to the trovincial administration. Since that very state to a Botto Ricans have been yearly electing in each of the seventy cities and towns of the Island their Municipal Councils, or loards of Aldermen, which took charge of the administration of the towns, and in 1898 the Madrid Government granted the Island an autonomous sort of government, composed of the Governor-General with a Council of Secretaries and two Houses, with faculties to enact laws, name the employees and attend in every respect to the government of the island in an autonomous way. The election of the Insular House of Representatives or Legislature took place in February, 1848, by universal suffrage every Forto Rican of over 25 years of age having the right to vote, and when the arm of the United States was landing at Guanca on the memorable 25th of June, 1848, the Legislature was sitting at San June, passing laws for the welfere of the country.

It can be seen by the above that the Porto Ricans are not tyros in the enjoyment of political rights and that they do understand pretty thoroughly what a representative government is.

Since the American occupation of the Island vincial," which convened at San Juan-rep-

thoroughly what a representative government is.

Since the American occupation of the Island those political rights have disapreared. Gen. Miles's proclamation to the people of the island pledging the word of the American Government to respect the isws and liberties of the country, nowithstanding; but the Porto Rican people do not comprain, knowing this to be a transitory period, which Congress is in justice bound to make cease as soon as possible, granting the island what it asks in compensation for what has been taken away—a territorial form of government.

Posto Rican.

New York, Nov. 28.

The Democratic Candidate for Speaker. From the Washington Times.

The contest for the minority leadership is now on in earnest, and each of the four candidates for the honor-Messrs. Richardson. De Armond, Suizer, and Bankhead-is working hard to secure the place.

"I would not be surprised," said a Representative, "if Mr. Richardson went into the caucus with a majority of the votes. He would only require eighty-three ballots to obtain that, and if, as is claimed, he has already sixtyseven, I do not see great difficulty in the way for obtaining sixteen more votes.

"The friends of Mr. Sulzer have put up a claim that he has had promised to him from orty to forty-five votes, but I am inclined to doubt this. Outside of the New York and New Jersey Democrata, who desire to please Richard Croker, I do not understand where Mr. Sulzer can hope for votes, although his friends

Sulzer can hope for votes, although his friends assert that he will get them from Pennsylvania, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, and one from Massachusetts.

"Mr. De Armond will have the solid delegation of twelve from Missouri, and it is claimed on apparent good authority that he has pledged to him thirty-nine or forty votes. Mr. Bankhead's friends feel certain that they have at least forty votes at present, and they hope to increase this number between now and Saturday, when the caucus will probably be held. I do not helieve that Mr. Bankhead can hold together that number of votes, and I think that when the split in his ranks takes place the vote of his followers will be divided between Richardson and De Armond, and that the formar will capture enough to ensure his election."

The Gold Democrats.

From the Conservation Review. In view of the certainty of Mr. Bryan's nomine tion, immediate steps should be taken to organise the sound money Democrats throughout the country. At the proper time a national convention should be called to take authoritative action. There s probably a difference of opinion among sound money Democrate as to the propriety of making even a Presidential nomination. Those of the Southern States would, with few exceptions, oppose making nominations for State, County, or Municipal However, it is certain they would agree with great unanimity, on the convention taking

1. The adoption of a sound Democratic platform, 1. The adoption of a sound Democratic platform reasserting the principles of the party as understood and taught by its founders and leaders down to the infortunate crisical at Chicago, and applying these principles to living questions.

2. To declare it to be the duty of sound money. Democrats, in the interest of sound Democracy and the public veilers, to use all honorable means to set us the defeat of Mr. Bryan.

3. To appoint a national executive committee composed of Democrats recognized throughout the country. Or their ability and particular, to take country for their ability and particular, to take charge of the campaign and see that sound money interature is distributed and the advocates of sound money and sound Temocracy are heard in every community throughout the country.

If no nominations are made by the sound money.

If no nominations are made by the sound money Democrate for State, County or Municipal offices. the way will be left open for affiliation with the free silver Democrate in all State and local elections. If this policy is pursued the division between Demoe confined within its proper limitations and the discussion will be applicable only to the

Presidential contest. Slot-Machine Gambling in New Orleans Worse Than the Lottery.

From the Times Semocrat. A mania for playing slot machines has taken possession of thousands of men and boys in this city, and the mania is on the increase. Many hundreds of people of whom the mania has taken complete possession are unable to tear themselves away from the excitement of the game as long as they have so much as a nickel r maining in their pockets. They stand there hour after hour, occasionally for as long as eight hours, "trying their luch" against the combination, until they have parted with \$5, \$10, \$15, or, as in one case that comes under our notice, \$20! There are slot much nes where only merchandise s given in return for winning throws; but there are there in which money is given. The last-named are the most extensively patronized, and are the

most demoralizing.
It is the most dangerous form of gambling. probably, that has ever struck New Orleans. There a hardly a saloon or cigar stand in the city without several of these alst machines. When staid hankers and merchants and professional men of the highest dauding are seen to "take a wairl" at the machine for a few nickels, the boy or young man naturally sees no wrong in following so good an example. Compared with this slot-machine mania, the playing of the lottery in its palmiest days was innocesses